

## NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT**



For Immediate Release: Jan. 6, 2004  
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Joseph E. Kernan, Governor  
Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

### ***Workforce Development Staff Changes Announced***

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Today, Indiana Department of Workforce Development Commissioner Alan Degner announced the following senior staff changes and additions in the agency:

- **Michael Draper** has been named Deputy Commissioner for Economic Development. In his new role Draper oversees the agency's Business Development, Labor Market Information, Helpline, Oversight and Workforce Transition divisions. Draper previously worked at the Indiana Department of Commerce for seven years, serving in a variety of capacities including Manager of its Economic Development Division, Director of Development Finance and Deputy Director of the Business Development Division. Draper is also a past President of the Indiana Small Business Development Corp.
- **Jeff Harris** has been named Press Secretary for the agency. In his new capacity, Harris will serve as the department's lead spokesman and will oversee the agency's communications efforts throughout the state. Harris previously served as Media Relations Director at the Indiana Department of Commerce for three years.
- **Diane Wieland** has been named Director of Marketing and Internal Communications. Formerly the agency's Director of Communications, in her new role she will supervise the agency's marketing efforts including the development of print material, advertisements and the agency's web site. Wieland, who has been with the agency for the past five years, also worked as the agency's Director of Constituent Relations for two years. She worked in the private sector before joining state government.
- **Patti Yount** has been named Director of Governmental Affairs. Most recently serving as the agency's Director of Strategic Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs, Yount works directly with local government units on various workforce issues. In her new role she will maintain existing duties and take on the agency's legislative responsibilities. Prior to joining DWD in 1999, Yount worked as the Assistant Commissioner for Policy and Planning at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for two years.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, contact Jeff Harris at (317) 232-3396 or visit the web site at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).

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